

REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 11th May 1889.

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
1	"Kasipore Nibási" ...	Kasipore, Burrisal ...	30	
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
2	"Ahammadi" ...	Tangail, Mymensingh	450	
3	"Ave Maria" ...	Calcutta	.....	
4	"Divákar" ...	Ditto	.....	
5	"Gaura Duta" ...	Maldah	.....	
6	"Purva Bangabási" ...	Noakholly	.....	
7	"Purva Darpan" ...	Chittagong	700	
8	"Uttara Banga Hitaishi" ...	Mahiganj, Rungpore...	.....	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
9	"Arya Darpan" ...	Calcutta	102	26th April 1889.
10	"Bangabási" ...	Ditto	20,000	4th May 1889.
11	"Burdwán Sanjibani" ...	Burdwan	302	30th April 1889.
12	"Chandra Vilásh" ...	Berhampore	250	
13	"Cháruvartá" ...	Sherepore, Mymensingh	500	29th ditto.
14	"Chattal Gazette" ...	Chittagong	800	
15	"Dacca Prakásh" ...	Dacca	1,200	5th May 1889.
16	"Education Gazette" ...	Hooghly	885	3rd ditto.
17	"Faridpur Hitaishini" ...	Faridpur	.....	
18	"Garib" ...	Dacca	3,000	
19	"Grambási" ...	Uluberia	800	4th ditto.
20	"Gaurab" ...	Ditto	.....	
21	"Guru Charana" ...	Calcutta	.....	18th & 25th April & 2nd May 1889.
22	"Hindu Ranjiká" ...	Beaulah, Rajshahye...	300	1st May 1889.
23	"Jagatbási" ...	Calcutta	750	
24	"Murshidábád Patriká" ...	Berhampore	508	
25	"Murshidábád Pratinidhi" ...	Ditto	350	
26	"Navavibhákar Sádharaní" ...	Calcutta	600	29th April & 6th May 1889.
27	"Prajá Bandhu" ...	Chandernagore	995	3rd May 1889.
28	"Pratikár" ...	Berhampore	600	3rd ditto.
29	"Rungpore Dik Prakásh" ...	Kakinía, Rungpore	205	25th April 1889.
30	"Sahachar" ...	Calcutta	500	1st May 1889.
31	"Samaya" ...	Ditto	3,806	3rd ditto.
32	"Sanjivani" ...	Ditto	4,000	4th ditto.
33	"Sansodhini" ...	Chittagong	800	24th April 1889.
34	"Santi" ...	Calcutta	3,722	24th April & 8th May 1889.
35	"Saráswat Patra" ...	Dacca	300	
36	"Som Prakásh" ...	Calcutta	1,000	6th May 1889.
37	"Srimanta Saudagár" ...	Ditto	.....	
38	"Sulabha Samáchar o Kusadaha" ...	Ditto	800	3rd ditto.
39	"Surabhi o Patáka" ...	Ditto	700	2nd ditto

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
<i>Daily.</i>				
40	"Dainik o Samachar Chandrika" ...	Calcutta ...	1,500	5th, 7th & 8th May 1889.
41	"Samvad Prabhakar" ...	Ditto ...	800	1st, 3rd, 4th, 6th, 7th & 8th May '89.
42	"Samvad Purnachandrodaya" ...	Ditto ...	300	3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th & 8th do.
43	"Banga Vidyá Prakashika" ...	Ditto ...	500	
ENGLISH AND BENGALI.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
44	"Dacca Gazette" ...	Dacca ...	.....	6th May 1889.
HINDI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
45	"Darjeeling Mission ke Másik Samachar Patrika." ...	Darjeeling ...	20	
46	"Kshtriya Pratika" ...	Patna ...	200	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
47	"Aryavarta" ...	Calcutta ...	1,500	4th ditto.
48	"Behar Bandhu" ...	Bankipore ...	.....	
49	"Bharat Mitra" ...	Calcutta ...	1,653	2nd ditto.
50	"Sar Sudhanidhi" ...	Ditto ...	500	6th ditto.
51	"Uchit Baktá" ...	Ditto ...	4,500	
52	"Hindi Samachar" ...	Bhagulpore ...	1,000	
PERSIAN.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
53	"Jam-Jahan-numa" ...	Calcutta ...	250	3rd ditto.
URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
54	"Aftal Alum Arrah" ...	Arrah ...	300	
55	"Akhbar Tusdiq-i-Hind" ...	Calcutta ...	.....	
56	"Anis" ...	Patna ...	.....	
57	"Gauhur" ...	Calcutta ...	196	30th April 1889.
58	"Sharaf-ul-Akbar" ...	Behar ...	150	
59	"Al Punch" ...	Bankipore ...	.....	
<i>Bi-weekly.</i>				
60	"Akhbar-i-darusaltanat" ...	Calcutta ...	340	5th May 1889.
<i>Daily.</i>				
61	"Urdu Guide" ...	Calcutta ...	212	
URIA.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
62	"Asha" ...	Cuttack ...	.....	
63	"Taraka and Subhavarta" ...	Ditto ...	.....	
64	"Pradip" ...	Ditto ...	.....	
65	"Samyabadi" ...	Ditto ...	.....	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
66	"Utkal Dipika" ...	Cuttack ...	444	28th April 1889.
67	"Balasore Samvad Vahika" ...	Balasore ...	205	18th ditto.
68	"Urya and Navasamvad" ...	Ditto ...	600	17th ditto.
PAPERS PUBLISHED IN ASSAM.				
BENGALI.				
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
69	"Silchar" ...	Silchar ...	500	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
70	"Paridarshak" ...	Sylhet ...	450	29th ditto.

I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

THE *Bangabasi*, of the 4th May, says that the Lushai War will not soon come to an end. The English Government intends to slowly swallow the Lushai territory. When the English Government annexed Burma, the writer felt certain what it would do with the Lushai country. It is therefore best for Government to be plain-spoken about the Lushais and their country instead of inventing false charges of outrageous cruelty against them as a pretext or taking their country.

The Lushai policy of Government.

BANGABASI,
May 4th, 1889.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

2. Referring to the arrest of Taraka Brahma Brahmachari, the *Surabhi-o-Pataká*, of the 2nd May, says that the attention of the police having been specially drawn to political and religious matters by Lord Dufferin's Confidential Police Circular, poor innocent people are undergoing much hardship and harassment.

The working of the Confidential Police Circular.

SURABHI-O-PATAKA
May nd, 1889.

3. The *Samaya*, of the 3rd May, says that the false case of murder got up by the police against one Dhunali, an inhabitant of the Darjeeling Terai, shows how the police can conceal truth by setting up and producing false evidence. If the Sessions Judge in that case had not been an intelligent and experienced officer, Dhunali would either have been hanged or transported for life. The police of this country is so heartless that it makes no scruple of getting innocent persons hanged or otherwise heavily punished. This is why the writer cries for police reform.

The wickedness of the police.

SAMAYA
May 3rd, 1889.

4. A correspondent of the *Bangabasi*, of the 4th May, writing from Sibpore and Kasinathpore, Pubna, says that theft prevails in that part of the country. The thieves give notice of their intention to commit theft.

Thefts in Pubna.

BANGABASI,
May 4th, 1889.

5. Another correspondent of the same paper, writing from Barisa, in the 24-Pergunnahs district, says that thefts are frequent in that village. Furits are being stolen from trees every day. Fifty pieces of cloth have been stolen from the house of a washerman.

Thefts at Barisa, district 24-Pergunnahs.

BANGABASI.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

6. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 30th April, says that the holding of the local Civil and Criminal Courts in the morning is causing trouble and inconvenience to court people. The courts do not break up before noon, and it is extremely painful to people to remain without food so long, and exposed to the powerful sun outside of the court-house. Morning courts, besides, cannot have more than three working hours, which is short time in itself, involving frequent and unnecessary attendance for all parties, and payment of larger fees to mukhtars and pleaders. The people of this country can bear heat, and the courts of Burdwan should therefore revert to their ordinary practice of sitting from 10 o'clock A.M. to 5 P.M.

Morning Courts in Burdwan.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
Apri 30th, 188

7. The *Hindu Ranjika*, of the 1st May, has heard complaints against Baboo Sarat Chandra Das, Deputy Magistrate of Nowgong, which the writer does not believe. A correspondent now accuses the Baboo of favouritism.

Baboo Sarat Chandra Das, Deputy Magistrate of Nowgong.

HINDU RANJIKA
May 1st, 1889.

HINDU RANJIKA,
May 1st, 1889.

8. The same paper says that in Rajshahye every Magistrate holds his court in the Criminal Court-room, but Mr. Phillips.

is at a great distance from the Criminal Court-room. Mr. Phillips is thus causing great inconvenience to the amla, mukhtears and parties.

GRAMVARI,
May 4th, 1889.

9. The *Grámvási*, of the 4th May, says, in connection with the case against the Sub-Registrar of Uluberia, that all the witnesses examined by the late local Deputy Magistrate, Baboo Mukundadeb

Mukherji, spoke to the correctness of the charges against the Sub-Registrar. But some of the witnesses examined by the present Deputy Magistrate have not done so. It has been observed that the new Deputy Magistrate is not conducting the enquiry so satisfactorily as Baboo Mukundadeb did.

(c)—Jails.

SAHACHAR,
May 1st, 1889.

10. The *Sahachar*, of the 1st May, in condemning the jail administration of India, observes as follows:—In this country the food of the people and their

general mode of living differ according to their position in life and their caste status. Consequently the food which is considered good by one class of people is execrated by another. Similarly, occupation which admirably suits one caste, is repugnant to another. But the English rulers of this country seem to be utterly ignorant of this. They seem to think that all classes of natives thrive equally on the same kind of food, and under the same kind and amount of labour. For one instance, Sir Rivers Thompson, the late Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, thought that a peasant in Bengal could live on two pice per day. For this reason the jail regulations of the English Government in this country apply without distinction to all classes of prisoners; and the result is that prisoners belonging to the respectable castes are often starved for want of suitable food, and wither away in languor under uncongenial labour. Besides this, the practice of supplying a fixed quantity of food to all prisoners is open to grave objection. Fixed rations are enough for many prisoners, but leave others half-fed. The possession of magisterial powers by Jail Superintendents results in cruelty to prisoners. It leads to much abuse of power. The dress of native prisoners, consisting of *jangias* made of coarse cloth, is unsuitable in a hot country like India. While it makes the poor prisoners feel intolerable heat in summer, it hardly protects them from cold in winter.

(d)—Education.

SANSODHINI,
April 21st, 1889.

The Pundit of the Anra school in Chittagong.

11. The *Sansodhini*, of the 21st April, has received the following additional complaints against Pundit Bisvambar of the Anra school:—

- (1.) He helped a guru who is his relative by allowing him to present some of his own scholars for the pathsala examination.
- (2.) He brought papers relating to the school to the school-house, and that is why they were burnt when the school-house was burnt down.
- (3.) He closed the school early on the day on which it first opened after the burning down of the school-house in spite of the order of a school member that the school should be kept open in order that he (the member) might go and see what papers still remained.
- (4.) He is said to have taken extra money from his scholars over and above the fees for the Upper Primary Examination.

SAHACHAR,
May 1st, 1889.

12. The *Sahachar*, of the 1st May, says that Sir Alfred Croft is an able and experienced officer, and if he really sets his heart upon establishing a technical

Vandalism.

school, there can be no doubt that he will succeed. The country wants technical schools, and the subscriptions collected on the occasion of the Jubilee will give a good start to the technical education scheme; and technical education, once commenced, will receive substantial help from the Municipalities. But is it true that Sir Alfred Croft will do away with the Hindoo School and the Sanskrit College in order to have a technical school? If so, Sir Alfred has grievously erred. The Hindu College, of which the Hindoo School is a relic or remnant, has very proud and pleasing associations for the Hindoo population of this country. The first College established in this country was the Hindoo College, and the Hindoo College, so long as it existed, was also the best College in Bengal. And it was in the Hindoo College that some of the most eminent Bengalis of the English *regime* received their education. To abolish what is left of such a college will be to give a deep shock to Hindoo feeling and to alienate from Sir Steuart Bayley the sympathy of every Hindoo of Bengal.

It is very doubtful, too, whether Government has the power to abolish the Hindoo School and the Sanskrit College. The site they occupy was the gift of David Hare, and the buildings in which they are lodged were built at the expense of the same eminent educationist, and of some rich Indian gentlemen. The institutions have funds and endowments which cannot be devoted to other purposes.

Of the Sanskrit College, it may be observed that it is the only Government institution in Bengal for the study of Sanskrit, and its abolition will shock not only Hindu feeling, but enlightened feeling all over Europe and America.

There is a more important and delicate consideration. The Sanskrit College is a special institution for the Hindoo in the same sense that the Madrassa is a special institution for the Muhammadan. And now that Muhammadans and Muhammadan institutions are being specially favoured by Government, the abolition of what is a special institution for the Hindoo will be politically a most unwise act. Everybody knows that the government of Lord Dufferin displayed strong Muhammadan proclivities, and after what His Honour said to the Muhammadans of Patna about Hindoo boys in Muhammadan schools, it will be no wonder if even the wise and impartial Sir Steuart Bayley is suspected of having a Muhammadan leaning, however feeble. The Hindoo does not regard with jealousy the special favours which the Muhammadan receives at the hands of Government; for the Hindoo knows that Muhammadan progress and prosperity will be an essential factor of Indian progress in general. But the Hindoo will feel in his heart of hearts if violent hands are laid on any specially Hindoo institutions for the sake of providing the country with a technical school. No, the Hindoo would have no such thing. He would rather have no Government school for imparting technical education than have one for two such beloved institutions as the Hindoo School and the Sanskrit College as its price. If Sir Alfred Croft had known how much the Hindoo School and the Sanskrit College are loved and honoured by the Hindoos of Bengal, he could not have made his proposal.

13. The *Hindu Ranjika*, of the 1st May, says that, though nine students have passed the B. A. Examination this year from the Rajshahye College, it cannot consider the result satisfactory. All these

The Rajshahye College in the University Examinations.

passed students, with the exception of one, have read in the fourth-year class for two or more years, and the result cannot therefore be regarded as satisfactory. The Cooch Behar and Berhampore Colleges, which are new

HINDU RANJIKA,
May 1st, 1889.

institutions, have passed students in the Honours Course in the B. A. Examination; but not one boy has yet passed in the Honour Course from the Rajshahye College.

SURABHI-O-PATAKA,
May 2nd, 1889.

14. The *Surabhi-o-Patáká*, of the 2nd May, laments the tedious and unnecessary delay in publishing the results of the First Arts and Entrance Examinations, as well as the unsatisfactory result of the B. A. Examination.

The University Examinations.

SURABHI-O-PATAKA.

15. The same paper has learnt from the *Hindoo Patriot* that the Lieutenant-Governor and the Director of Public Instruction have been conferring together with a view of abolishing the Calcutta Sanskrit College, and establishing a Technical Institution in the premises now occupied by it. But Technical Institutions, however good, should not be established at the cost of the Sanskrit College. The deplorable condition of that college, due only to its present Principal, will not be a good and sufficient ground for its abolition.

Technical education and the Calcutta Sanskrit College.

SULABH SAMACHAR-O-
KUSHADAH,
May 3rd, 1889.

16. The *Sulabh Samáchar-o-Kushadaha*, of the 3rd May, has heard that the results of the Middle English and Middle Vernacular Examinations held in the Presidency Circle will not be published this year in the *Calcutta Gazette*. During the last two or three years the results of those examinations in the Burdwan Circle have been first published, and that there has been undue delay in publishing the results of those examinations in the Presidency Circle. Does not the Presidency Inspector know that teachers, students, and guardians must be all equally anxious to know the results of those examinations?

The Middle Examinations in the Presidency Circle.

SAMAYA,
May 3rd, 1889.

17. The *Samaya*, of the 3rd May, says that the results of the B.A. Examination were hung up at the Senate House at 10 A.M. on Friday, the 26th April. The issue of the *Sanjivani* due on the 27th April was published on the evening of the 16th, and the question is, how could the *Sanjivani* publish the results on that day? It cannot have copied the results from the *Gazette of India*, for the *Gazette of India* was published on the day following. It cannot have also copied the results from the list hung up at the Senate House, because the agent of this paper, who was present at the Senate House from 10 A.M. to 6-30 P.M., did not see anybody take any copy. Such copying besides would have been impossible in the crowd of boys at the Senate House. There is some mystery in connection with this publication of the results of the B.A. Examination in the *Sanjivani*. By this the writer does not, however, mean to say that either the Brahmo members of the Senate, or the Brahmo Registrar of the University, furnished the *Sanjivani* with the results; but there is nevertheless some mystery in this.

The results of the B.A. Examination in the *Sanjivani* newspaper.

SANJIVANI,
May 4th, 1889.

18. The *Sanjivani*, of the 4th May, says that the Registrar of the Calcutta University is not at all responsible for the delay in publishing the results of the B.A. Examination. The delay was due to the carelessness of two English examiners, who returned some papers unexamined along with their examined papers. The unexamined papers had to be sent back for examination. It is also said that mistakes were made by these examiners in summing up marks. What certainty is there that these examiners, who seem to be so devoid of all sense of responsibility, have not made the further mistake of giving one candidate's marks to another? The University scandals now bid fair to rival the Calcutta Municipality scandals. There are scandals, in fact, in connection with these examinations every year. One of the two

The last B.A. Examination.

aforesaid English examiners is guilty of some carelessness or other every year, and yet he is appointed examiner every year. It is the desire of the public that the Senate should take proper notice of the matter.

(e)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

19. The *Cháruvartá*, of the 29th April, says that cholera prevails at Sherepore, and that, if its spread is not promptly checked, it will assume a virulent form. There is filth in every part of the

CHARUVARTA,
April 29th, 1889.

Cholera at Sherepore in the district of Mymensingh.

town, the river water is foul, and there is also want of pure drinking water. What good will the burning of a little sulphur do under these circumstances? Let the Municipality burn large quantities of incense and sulphur, and sprinkle phenyle over foul-smelling places. The Municipality will also do well to engage for some time the services of a homœopathic doctor with a supply of medicines.

20. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 30th April, says that the recent resolution of the Burdwan Municipality to bury the night-soil of the town in the *maidan*, west of the Ranisagara tank, north of the

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
April 30th, 1889.

Disposal of night-soil within the Burdwan Municipality.

road from the Ranisagara to the Syamasagara tank, and south of Bahir Sarva Mangala and Rasikapur, will, if carried into effect, cause a deal of annoyance and inconvenience to the neighbourhood. There are dwelling-houses close by the site; people have always to pass by it, the Syamasagara and Ranisagara tanks being favourite haunts of the Burdwan people morning and evening. Bad smells issue from the place where night-soil is buried; and such spots are always infested with flies, which are a great nuisance to the neighbourhood. But the Sanitary Commissioner recommends the burial of night-soil within the town, on the ground that buried night-soil will make excellent manure, and will not be injurious to public health. If so, why bury it not in the *maidan* of the *Khalui beel*, north of the court-house? It is hoped that the municipality will reconsider this question.

21. A correspondent of the same paper makes it a matter of complaint that the Commissioners of the Burdwan Municipality did not assemble on the day fixed for hearing

BURDWAN SANJIVANI.

The Burdwan Municipality.

objections against the notice for house-rent served on the rate-payers, and formed a bench last Friday without giving previous notice, and rejected the applications of many poor ratepayers. The municipal rates within the municipality are not realized regularly in each quarter, and are allowed to accumulate for two or three quarters, and are then demanded at once. Some privies, for which the night-soil rate has been paid in advance, are not regularly served, whilst other privies, for which no rate has been paid for a year or so, are daily attended to.

22. A correspondent of the same paper says that the working of the Ranigunge Local Board has been very irregular. The roads leading from village

BURDWAN SANJIVANI.

The Ranigunge Local Board.

to village have not been improved. Some bridges are urgently required on the roads leading from the Durgapore and Rajbandh stations to the surrounding villages, and the roads themselves ought to be thoroughly repaired.

23. Referring to the destructive fire in the town of Midnapore on the 20th April last, the *Surabhi-o-Patáká*, of the 2nd May, says that the Midnapore Municipality is not supplied with a sufficient

SURA BHI-O-PATAKA,
May 2nd, 1889.

Fire-brigade arrangements in the Midnapore Municipality.

number of pumps for extinguishing fires.

SULABH SAMACHAR-
O-KUSHADHA,
May 3rd, 1889.

24. The *Sulabh Samáchar-o-Kushadaha*, of the 3rd May, refers to the unwillingness of the Municipal Commissioners of Culna to have for their colleagues either Ramgopal Muchi or Akub Sekh, a seller of shoes, who are candidates for a vacant seat on the Municipal Board. The law recognises no caste distinction. Anybody, however low in the social scale, is entitled to a Municipal Commissionership, if he is a competent man. It is unreasonable to demand self-government and at the same time to insist on caste distinctions.

(f)—Questions affecting the land.

BANGABASI,
May 4th, 1889.

25. The *Bangabási*, of the 4th May, says that payment of rent by money-order will be attended with both advantages and disadvantages. It will prevent oppression and confusion in the accounts, and will enable the ryot to receive his rent-receipt with ease. But it will at the same time have the effect of throwing the ryot into arrear. The majority of the Bengal ryots are poor, and rents cannot be collected from them except after repeated demands; and it is feared that in the absence of such demands, the ryot will, as a matter of course, fall into arrear to his own great embarrassment. The system will also add to the ryot's burden by requiring him to pay a money-order fee in addition to his rent.

(g)—Railways and communications including canals and irrigation.

RUNGPORE DIK PRA-
KASH,
April 25th, 1889.

26. A correspondent of the *Rungpore Dik Prakásh*, of the 25th April thus writes on the subject of the Railway accident at Madhanagar:—

"When the northward-bound mixed train was taking passengers at the station of Madhanagar, a cloud, foreboding a high wind, was seen to arise, in the south-west sky. Without paying heed to this, the guard and the driver started the train. When the train was upon the bridge over the *beel* of Kunchemora, near the Madhanagar station, it was caught in the wind, and the passenger carriages were detached from the engine and the brake-van lifted aloft and hurled down into the *beel* below. The number of persons killed was innumerable; and the few who escaped death have been badly wounded. It is difficult to say how many persons have been killed in the accident. Even now there are many dead bodies and carriages in the *beel*."

SULABH SAMACHAR-O-
KUSHADHA,
May 3rd, 1889.

27. The *Sulabh Samáchar-o-Kushadaha*, of the 3rd May, says that there were formerly two gate-keepers at the two gates to the railway crossing near the Gobardanga station between the villages of Khantura and Gobardanga. But no gate-keepers are now posted at those gates, and the gates are kept locked at night. The result has been that carts carrying passengers or goods that way have to wait near the gates all night. This inconvenience should be soon removed.

(h)—General.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
April 30th, 1889.

28. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 30th April, approves of the appointment of Mr. Beames as a Member of the Board of Revenue, and says that Mr. Beames is a perfectly competent officer and is specially fitted for the Board.

29. A correspondent of the *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 30th April, says that the transfer of the Indas thana from the district of Burdwan to that of Bankura has

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
April 30th, 1889.

The Indas thana of Bankura.

caused much trouble and inconvenience. The distance of the town of Burdwan from Indas is only 14 miles, while the distance of Indas from the Bankura town is over 50 miles. There is no railway communication or means of communication by boat between Bankura and Indas. Indas has been included in the Bishenpore sub-division; but the distance of Indas from Bishenpore is greater by ten or twelve miles than that of Indas from the town of Burdwan. The authorities are requested to restore the Indas thana to the district of Burdwan, or to make Indas itself a *chowkie* and sub-divisional head-quarters.

30. The *Samvad Prabhakar*, of the 1st May, refers to the practice of oppression in connection with the assessment of the income-tax in Calcutta, and asks the

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,
May 1st, 1889.

The Income-tax in Calcutta.

Lieutenant-Governor to pay his attention to the administration of the Income-tax Department. As much of the mismanagement in that department is due to the present Income-tax Collector being unable, for want of time, to supervise the work done by the assessors, it is desirable that an officer who would be able to devote the whole of his time to income-tax work should be placed in charge of this department.

31. The *Hindu Ranjika*, of the 1st May, says that everybody in Rajshahye, high or low, has become uneasy on account of the oppressions committed by

HINDU RANJIKA,
May 1st, 1889.

Mr. Phillips.

Mr. Phillips. How Mr. Phillips is harassing Rajah Jogendra Nath of Nattore has been already stated (see Weekly Report on Native Papers for week ending the 4th May 1889, paragraph 55); and a correspondent of the *Statesman* newspaper now says that Rajah Sasisekbareswar of Tahirpore is living in Calcutta in the hope of being able to avoid thereby the serious consequences of Mr. Phillips' displeasure against him. The Rajah's absence from Rajshahye, to which he is devotedly attached, coupled with the fact of Mr. Phillips having demanded additional security from him in a lawsuit, and of his having threatened him in a decision of his, leaves no doubt in the mind about the cause of the Rajah's staying away so long from his beloved district.

32. A correspondent of the same paper says that there are under the jurisdiction of the Madla post office 127

HINDU RANJIKA.

The Madla post office in Rajshahye.

mouzahs, some of which are at a distance of eight or ten miles from it; and as the post office has got only one peon, mails are delivered in the villages at intervals of three or four days! If parcels for any village come to the post office on other days than that on which the peon is to visit that village, they remain in the post office till that day, and are not delivered before that day. It is owing only to the carelessness of the Postmaster that not a parcel is returned. But the Postmaster of Bogra has now ruled that all value payable parcels, except those for villages which are visited at intervals of three days (which should be kept for three days), should not be kept in the post office for more than one day, and should be returned to the Bogra office and brought back again for delivery on the peon's visiting day. This arrangement will be a source of loss to the sender, to the addressee, and to the Government. For in this arrangement a parcel will be sent for delivery only once, and if the addressee happens to be absent on that day, or has not money with him, the parcel will be returned. In this way the sender will lose his postage, the Government will lose its money-order fee, and the addressee will not get the article when he wants it. The runner, besides, will have to carry the same article over and over again.

EDUCATION GAZETTE,
May 3rd, 1889.

33. The *Education Gazette*, of the 3rd May, referring to Sir Steuart Bayley's Resolution on the recruitment of the Subordinate Executive Service, says that the rules laid down by His Honour for appointments to that service are in the highest degree just; that His Honour has tried hard to explain, as clearly as possible, the object of the several arrangements proposed in the resolution; that His Honour deserves praise for his acceptance of the promises of his predecessors, and that His Honour is leaving his successors completely unhampered in this very important matter. By pointing out the sort of men whose appointment will give public satisfaction, Sir Steuart Bayley has impliedly forbidden English officers to recommend anybody and everybody for appointments in the Subordinate Executive Service. The absence of any provision in the Resolution on the subject of the promotion of meritorious officers of the police and other departments to the Subordinate Executive Service will assure people that meritorious officers are to be promoted in their own departments, and that appointments in the Subordinate Executive Service are not to be prizes for the meritorious officers of all departments.

Sir Steuart Bayley's declaration in the Resolution that only a few of those whose names have been registered for appointments in the Subordinate Executive Service are likely to receive such appointments should warn such persons not to sit idle in the self-complacent assurance that they will all receive appointments in that service.

In short, a Government Resolution so clear, so satisfactory, and so comprehensive, has not been seen for a long time.

SANJIVANI,
May 4th, 1889.

34. The *Sanjivani*, of the 4th May, says that the late Chief Commissioner of Assam, Mr. Elliott, in commenting on the death-rate of 41.3 per mille among

Assam coolies in 1883, characterised the fact as a great blot on his administration. But seeing that the death-rate among coolies in the Tejpore district in 1887 was 41.1 per mille, it cannot be said that the stain of the blot has become fainter than before. But the way in which an average is struck in the coolie despatch of the Government of India is misleading in the highest degree. The mortality among Act labourers is largely in excess of that among non-Act labourers, as the following extract from the Emigration Report for 1887 will show:—"As usual the mortality amongst Act labourers was largely in excess of that amongst non-Act labourers. It should, however, be remembered in connection with this point that the statistics of non-Act labourers are not so carefully compiled or scrutinised as those of labourers under Act I." But whilst saying that the statistics of mortality among non-Act labourers are not quite reliable, the Government of India makes no scruple of adding the death-rate among those labourers to the death-rate among Act-labourers for the purpose of making it appear that the rate of mortality among coolies is low. This is a disgraceful trick. The average mortality per mille among Act-labourers was 57.2 in 1887. The mortality in the district of Lakshmipore was 72.4, and in the district of Tejpore 67.5. Indeed, mortality in no district was less than 44.1 per mille, and in most districts was above 50 per mille. But although the statistics of mortality reveal such a terrible tale, Government has not hesitated to declare in its despatch to the Secretary of State that Act I is beneficial to coolies. Government probably made this remark under the impression that it is better for those to die whose life is a constant burden to them! But the more astonishing statement in the despatch is that the average mortality among coolies from 1885 to 1887 was not much greater than the average mortality among the general population of Assam during those years. The average mortality among the general population of Assam in 1885 was

27.91 per mille, it fell to 27.77 in 1886, and became so low as 24.52 in 1887. But the average mortality among the labourers in the Assam tea-gardens in 1887 was 36.2 per mille, that is, half as much again as that among the general population. The average mortality per mille in Bengal in 1885 was 27.74, and in 1886 23.46. So that the mortality among coolies was more than one and a half times the mortality among the general population of Bengal. Such attempts on the part of Government to conceal the truth are highly improper.

35. The *Aryavarta*, of the 4th May, says that Government officers are prohibited by rule from having any connexion with journals and magazines. But Mr. Phillips is editor of the *Calcutta Review* in spite of the prohibition. It would seem that Englishmen are above law and rule.

ARYAVARTA,
May 4th, 1889.

36. The *Bangabasi*, of the 4th May, says that many are asking what the precise nature of Mr. Crawford's dismissal is. And the reason why they are asking this is, that they are under the impression that Mr. Crawford will be allowed full pension. The writer is of opinion that Mr. Crawford should not be allowed a pension, and Government ought to make a clear declaration on the subject.

BANGABASI,
May 4th, 1889.

37. The *Dainik o Samachar Chandrika*, of the 5th May, says that now that grave charges have been preferred against Mr. Phillips, Magistrate of Rajshahye. and now that his management of the *Calcutta Review* has drawn towards him the notice of Parliament, it will be a very improper thing for Government to allow him to go away on leave for which he has applied.

DAINIK O SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
May 5th, 1889.

38. The same paper does not attach much importance to the defeat of the Government in the House of Commons on the abkari question. The defeat will lead to no result, for the reform of the abkari administration will mean a material sacrifice of the abkari revenue; and the Government of India is hardly in a position to make such sacrifice at the present moment. It cannot recoup itself by reviving the import duties: for the very men who are now determined to save the people of India from her abkari system, will strongly resent any attempt to reimpose the import duties, if Government wants those duties in order to make up the loss of abkari revenue. The Government of India is really in a dilemma.

DAINIK O SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA.

39. A correspondent of the *Dacca Prakash*, of the 5th May, says that Babu Dwaraka Nath Basu, postmaster of the post office at Nawabganj, in the postal subdivision of Manikganj, having, in the month of March last, fallen seriously ill, applied for leave of absence for three months. A postal Sub-Inspector came to the post office and personally witnessed his (postmaster's) dangerous state of health, and went away after giving the postmaster the promise to send a relieving officer without delay. But this promise was not kept. The man died and no notice was taken of him until three days after his death. Such is the sense of duty and justice which animates the officers of the Postal Department. The postmaster lingered in sickness for a month, and the chances are that if he had been relieved in time, he might have recovered under careful nursing in the midst of his family. The Postal authorities should enquire into this case and find out the person to whose fault the man's death was owing.

DACCA PRAKASH,
May 5th, 1889.

Withholding leave from the postmaster also involved the local public, especially those who had to make revenue payments by means of money-orders, in endless trouble.

DARUS SULTANAT,
May 5th, 1889.

40. The *Darus Sultanat*, of the 5th May, is of opinion that the result of the recruitment of the Subordinate Executive Service on the principles laid down in Sir Steuart Bayley's recent Resolution on the subject cannot be predicted. But so far as the matter can be judged at present, it seems that the result will be satisfactory.

SAR SUDHANIDHI,
May 6th, 1889.

41. The *Sâr Sudhânidhi*, of the 6th May, approves of the proposal to make a portion of the surplus population of Behar settle in Burma.

Emigration of Beharis to Burma.

III.—LEGISLATIVE.

PRATIKAR,
May 3rd, 1889.

42. The *Pratikâr*, of the 3rd May, says that one cannot but feel surprised at the spectacle of Englishmen who were so much opposed to Negro slavery countenancing the system of coolie emigration within their own dominion.

The only difference between Negro slavery and coolie emigration is that the former was open slavery and the latter is slavery in disguise. The Coolie Act is like a sharp dagger kept concealed, and coolie work is something very horrid with a cloak of philanthropy thrown over it. There is no sin in the world which is not committed in the course of coolie recruiting, and there are not words to express the abhorrence which coolie recruiting excites. So long as the Coolie Act is not amended, India may with perfect justice be called a second Africa.

The Coolie Bill which has been introduced into the Bengal Council concerns itself only with the health of the coolies, and provides no remedy against oppression in coolie recruiting. If the Bengal Government has not the power to legislate on the subject of coolie recruiting, the Government of India should do so.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI,
May 6th, 1889.

43. The *Navavibhâkar Sâdhârani*, of the 6th May, says that the Private Fisheries Bill is very opportune and its provisions are just.

The Private Fisheries Bill.

IV.—NATIVE STATES.

SURABHI O PATAKA.
May 2nd, 1889.

44. Referring to the formation of the Council which will manage the Cashmere State under the guidance of the Resident, the *Surabhi-o-Patakâ*, of the 2nd May, says that the Council is a death-blow to the Maharaja of Cashmere, and that Sir Frederick Roberts has been to Cashmere apparently on tour, but really for performing the funeral of the Maharaja. It would have been better for the Maharaja to abdicate than to accept such an arrangement.

SANJIVANI,
May 4th, 1889.

45. The *Sanjivani*, of the 4th May, says that the arrangements made for the government of Cashmere may lead to reform, but it is doubtful whether the Maharaja will long retain his sovereign power under those arrangements. The facility which the arrangements will offer for the settlement of Englishmen in Cashmere will prove the cause of the ruin of that State, for English settlers show a disposition everywhere not to remain subject to native rule. Cashmiers will therefore be sooner or later annexed to British territories.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

SAMAYA,
May 3rd, 1889.

46. The *Samaya*, of the 3rd May, says that scarcity prevails at Bankipore, Mathurapore, Kulpi and other places in the 24-Pergunnahs district. It is said that people have begun to die of starvation. It is much to be regretted that Govern-

Distress in the 24-Pergunnahs.

ment has not yet opened relief works in those places. The money in the hands of the District Board is not sufficient for relief purposes. It is to be hoped that Government will grant money with a liberal hand for the relief of the distressed people.

47. The *Bangabasi*, of the 4th May, publishes the letter of a correspondent in North Tirhoot, who complains that the Lieutenant-Governor's visit to that part

Distress in North Tirhoot.

of Behar has not been followed by the opening of any relief measure. There is clearly famine there. Coarse rice, which sold for two rupees per maund, is now selling for four rupees per maund. The proposed Durbhanga and Seetamurhee and Sakri and Jainagore lines were surveyed, but no relief work has yet been opened on those lines. Earthwork should soon be commenced on those lines, and tanks should be excavated in villages for the purpose of providing work for those who are too weak to work at the railway lines.

48. The same paper, referring to the prevalence of distress in different parts of Bengal, remarks that it will not do for Government to plead want of funds at such

Distress in Bengal.

a time as this. Government is spending money like water for frontier defences. But what will be the good of defending the country if the country is depopulated by famine? Drought first, and excessive rainfall next, excited apprehension of famine early last year. But the growth of new paddy, and the bringing of stored rice into the market, put off scarcity for two or three months. But scarcity was put off for two or three months only, and the condition of the people will be very critical in the months of Bysakh and Jaistha. And the situation will be still more critical if there can be no sowing this month for want of rainfall. Government should closely watch the condition of the people during these two months.

49. The same paper says that the prospects of the crops in Behar and Orissa are nowise better than in Bengal. But nothing definite or important can be learnt on this head from the crop and weather

Crop and weather reports in the Calcutta Gazette.

reports published by Government in the *Calcutta Gazette*. All that can be learnt from those reports is that there is drought, and cultivation cannot be therefore proceeded with. But the reports say nothing about the nature or extent of the distress caused by drought among the ryots of Bengal. Clear and explicit statements about the effects of the weather on agriculture, and the condition of the agriculturists, are never made in these reports, and it is not easy to see why this is not done. It cannot be that this is due to Government's ignorance of the real state of things. Government knows that there is distress in Mozufferpore and Durbhunga; but it is impossible to ascertain from the crop and weather reports that the case is so. If it be the object of these reports to furnish the public with information regarding the real condition of the people, it may be unhesitatingly affirmed that that object is not attained by the manner in which those reports are now prepared.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

50. A correspondent of the *Cháruvartá*, of the 29th April, complains of the want of drinking water and of the prevalence of cholera at Ghurail, Dharer Gati, Adampore, Chakpara, Narayanpore, Nayapara and other villages in Kendua. There is no other water-reservoir except a *beel* in these villages. Scarcity of water is not much felt during the rains, but it begins to be felt from the close of the rainy season. The cultivators steep jute in the water of the *beel*, and consequently the water becomes foul

Scarcity of drinking water in Kendua in the district of Mymensingh.

BANGABASI,
May 4th, 1889.

BANGABASI.

BANGABASI

CHARUVARTA,
April 29th, 1889.

as soon as its quantity diminishes. The inhabitants of the above villages are now getting their supply from a small quantity of muddy water left at its bottom. The Deputy Magistrate is requested to prevent the water of the *beel* from being polluted by the steeping of jute, and to excavate a tank in which jute may be steeped.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
April 30th, 1889.

51. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 30th April, is sorry for the departure on furlough of Mr. Oldham, the Magistrate and Collector of Burdwan. Mr. Oldham has been always very anxious not to do injustice to anybody. Unlike many officials, he has much respect for the local native newspaper, the whole of which he will himself read and readily remedy any injustice which may be reported therein. He has always, and of his own motion, supplied this paper with correct information. He never allowed himself to be influenced by the *amla* or anyone else. He is a model civilian. There is hardly an abler Magistrate than him. He is extremely loved by the people of Burdwan. It is hoped that on return to India he will be promoted to higher posts.

GAUHAR,
April 30th, 1889.

52. The *Gauhar*, of the 30th April, hopes that Lord Lansdowns will inform the public how the property of the late Nawab Wajid Ali Shah is to be distributed among the different members of his family, according to the decision of Government on that point.

The property of the late Nawab Wajid Ali Shah.

SAHACHAR,
May, 1st 1889.

53. The *Sahachar*, of the 1st May, says that, as the Puri temple is going to be repaired, all the obscene figures on its walls should be destroyed. Those who built those figures no doubt meant well. Like the early Christian ascetics, who made the experiment of lying on the same bed with naked women a means of acquiring perfect self-control, the designers of these temple figures thought that men would learn therefrom to forbear. But the experiment is risky and repugnant to modern tastes.

The proposal for the repair of the temple suggests the question, how much longer will Government overlook the waste and abuse by ignorant and wicked pandas and mahantas of the vast proceeds of the properties of the temple? It is desirable that those properties should be vested in a committee of management. It is certain that if these properties are managed in the interest of the public, the public will be able to secure from their income many things for which they have now to tease the Government.

SAHACHAR.

54. The same paper does not see anything objectionable in the formation of Eurasian regiments. It thinks, on the other hand, that there may be considerable saving of expenditure, if the formation of Eurasian regiments is followed by the formation of local army corps, like those of the time of the East India Company. But the question is, will these Eurasian regiments be really of any use to the Empire? It is almost certain that no respectable Eurasians will care to enter the army; so the Eurasian Army Corps will consist mainly of recruits from the scum of the Eurasian population, and will thus be perfectly useless. There is the greater reason to apprehend such a result, because the Eurasian regiment formed in 1857, known as the Lahore Light Horse Regiment, proved a miserable failure, and had to be disbanded in sheer disgust.

The question of Eurasian regiments.

SAMAYA,
May 3rd, 1889.

55. The *Samaya*, of the 3rd May, says that Government's fear and distrust of educated Bengalis is not a little surprising; and this distrust of Bengalis is gradually increasing, and Government is, therefore, attempting to injure Bengalis of education and independence of character. It is not easy to

Government and educated Bengalis.

understand why the English Government, which is such a model of civilisation and enlightenment, displays such weakness. The Bengalis have never shown any sign of disloyalty, and they are, in common with the rest of the educated community of India, endeavouring to secure just privileges for their countrymen, and to obtain the right of enrolment as volunteers, in order that they may become devotedly attached to Government and fight for it when necessary. It is this desire for securing these privileges which is at the root of the Congress. Ought Government to oppose the Congress, which has nothing but this excellent object in view?

Government seems to have no liking whatever for educated Bengalis. By his successful administration of Cashmere, Baboo Nilambar Mukerjea was proving that his countrymen are not without administrative power, and thwarting the Government's designs for the annexation of Cashmere. Government, therefore, removed him from that State. There are some high Bengali officers in Jeypore and Hyderabad. But Baboo Kantichandra Mukerjea, the Prime Minister of that State, is reported to have in a manner sold himself to the Resident. Sangsar Baboo, a high Bengali official in Jeypore, is a man of independence, and so his influence is declining. Sangsar Baboo is an eyesore to the Resident. Baboo Aghorenath Chatterjea was dismissed from the Nizam's service, through the influence of the Resident, on account of his opposition to the Chanda Railway scheme. It is now rumoured that he has been again dismissed from the Nizam's service, and with him Baboo Nishikanta Chatterjea has also been dismissed.

56. Referring to the arrest of Taraka Brahmachari as the priest of Dhuleep Sing in disguise, the *Prajābandhu*, of the 3rd May, says that the event shows that

Arrest of Tarak Brahmachari.

the English officials are thoroughly convinced that the Indians are not satisfied with the British rule. Small matters and insignificant occurrences would not otherwise alarm them or disturb their peace of mind. They startle in fear at the name of Dhuleep Sing, and their police is vigilantly watching the movements of every mendicant and every association in the country. All this is creating in the public mind grave doubts about the strength and stability of the English rule, and Government is therefore losing its reputation day after day. For the Paramount Power of all India to be terrified at the sight of a naked *faqir* is really shameful.

PRAJABANDHU,
May 3rd, 1889.

57. The *Sanjivani*, of the 4th May, refers to the spread of black fever from the Garo Hills to near Gauhati, and regrets that no steps have yet been taken by Government to check the spread of that epidemic. Government should soon make arrangements for the medical treatment of the people suffering from that disease.

SANJIVANI.
May 4th, 1889.

58. The same paper says that the steamer *Chandika*, belonging to Messrs. Hoare, Miller and Company, while running from Calcutta to Uluberia with a boat attached to it, was driven by a squall, boat and all, upon a ship lying at anchor near Metiabruj. The steamer was saved through the instrumentality of a sailor of the *Waverley*, who was on board the steamer; but the boat could not be saved. Its roof fell down, and three of the passengers sustained severe injuries from its fall. The terrible accident to the *Mongola* took place only the other day, and yet the Company does not take care to secure good serangs and to keep good steamers. The Port Commissioners should enquire into the accident.

SANJIVANI.

59. The same paper says that a petition was submitted to the Lieutenant-Governor long ago by the ryots of the Magura and Narail sub-divisions against the indigo-planters of Nowhat, but no orders have

SANJIVANI.

A missing petition to the Lieutenant-Governor.

yet been passed on it. The writer suspects that the petition has not reached the Lieutenant-Governor, who is so kind to the poor, and that, finding it written in Bengali, the subordinate officers have thrown it into the waste-paper basket. The writer earnestly requests Sir Steuart Bayley to make enquiries about the petition.

BANGABASI,
May 4th, 1889.

60. The *Bangabási*, of the 4th May, says that the remark of the Lieutenant-Governor in reply to the address of the inhabitants of Chittagong, that it is improper to look to Government for the redress of local grievances, and that local grievances should be redressed with local funds, should show the District Boards what the object of Government in introducing Local Self-Government was. Sir Steuart Bayley's statement is really of an alarming nature.

BANGABASI.

61. The same paper cannot approve of Sir Steuart Bayley's reply to the petition of the Chittagong People's Association on the subject of the Noabad settlement. That reply was only a rebuke, which it should not have been. If the Association were wrong in their exposition of facts, His Honour should have pointed out to them where their error was, and if he himself had not the time to do so, he should have directed his Secretaries to explain the case to them. His Honour also declined to re-open a question which has been decided. But if injustice has been done, it is clearly wrong to refuse to re-open a question simply because the question has been decided.

ARYAVARTA,
May 4th, 1889.

62. The *Aryavarta*, of the 4th May, says that horse-racing and lottery exist in India in spite of the prohibition of gambling in the law. And why? Is it because they concern Englishmen more than anybody else?

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,
May 8th, 1889.

63. The *Samvād Prabhākar*, of the 8th May, says that Sir John Gorst's statement in Parliament on the subject of child-marriage in India is very unsatisfactory. It has given rise in this country to the belief that Government will henceforward indirectly interfere with native customs. And if that be Sir John Gorst's meaning, there can be no questioning that he has said what he had no right to say. For it was certainly not the intention of the Queen-Empress that the pledges which her celebrated proclamation has given to the Indian people should be *indirectly* violated by her own officers.

URYA PAPERS.

SAMVAD BAHIKÁ,
April 18th, 1889.

64. The *Samvād Báhiká*, of the 18th April, strongly disapproves the reduction of the number of inspecting pundits of schools in the Balasore district, and expatiates on the hardship of the measure, the effect of which will be to throw out of employ a certain number of men who have discharged their duties in a devoted spirit.

UTKAL DIPIKÁ,
April 20th, 1889.

65. The *Utkal Dipiká*, of the 20th April, observes that people in the mofussil being required to travel long distances to make money orders in post-offices, the benefits of the system are not appreciated to the fullest extent. If there were a rule to the effect that villagers might make money-orders to the amount of Rs. 10 only through the post peon, the popularity of the system would become for ever established.

66. The Editor of the same paper has learnt from one of his friends that a death under suspicious circumstances has occurred in the Beerbati field, situated at a short distance from Cuttack town. He regrets that the dead body was not medically examined and the police was not mindful of its duty for two days together.

UTKAL DIPIKA,
April 20th, 1889.

67. The same paper brings forward certain complaints of injustice in connection with the leave allowances of the teachers and professors of the Ravenshaw College and Collegiate School, and remarks that it is very strange that while some draw full salaries during leave on sickness, others should draw only moieties under similar circumstances.

UTKAL DIPIKA.

68. The same paper regrets to note the prevalence of small-pox in Cuttack town, and points out that the neglect of the Municipality and the Police in making the Vaccination Act work properly within the municipal limits has left a large number of children in an unprotected state, always open to the attack of small-pox.

UTKAL DIPIKA.

ASSAM PAPERS.

69. The *Paridarshak*, of the 29th April, says that the coolie despatch of the Government of India is a most disappointing document. Government says in that despatch that it does not see that the coolies have any peculiar hardships to bear, and that it will make further inquiries in the matter. But the further inquiries will probably be made of the managers of tea-gardens, and it is easy to imagine what the result of such enquiries must be. Government ought to employ a few natives to make secret enquiries in the matter.

PARIDARSHAK,
April 29th, 1889.

70. The same paper says that Mr. Mann has in his Forest Report plumed himself upon his successful administration of the Forest Department, the only ground for the brag being that he has succeeded by his oppressions in increasing the area of, as well as the income of, forests. 193 cases under section 67 were decided by arbitration. The reason why so many cases were decided by arbitration appears to be that people did not choose to have recourse to law courts from a fear of being subjected to indignities and put to unnecessary expenses. As in the Police, so in the Forest Department, common officers are armed with large powers. This is source of great hardship to a country in the present backward condition of Assam. The large number of forest cases has alarmed the writer. It is hoped that the present Chief Commissioner will attend to the matter. The income from the Forest Department in 1887-88 was Rs. 2,68,312 against Rs. 2,12,011 in the preceding year, and this increase in income means oppression.

PARIDARSHAK.

71. The same paper, of the 29th April, complains that an interested person has got a tank at Kalarar chak re-excavated, with the assistance of the Sylhet Local Board. Moved by influence and interest, Priya Baboo at first recommended a grant of Rs. 200 for the purpose. The Chairman, after making enquiries reduced the grant to Rs. 100. But the fellow-villagers of the above person proposed to protest against the grant. The wily patriot, however, took the grant from the Board in March last and lent the money on interest, and has now re-excavated the tank with the money received as interest. Ought not the Local Board to enquire how the money has been disposed of?

PARIDARSHAK.

PARIDARSHAN,
April 29th, 1889.

72. The same paper, of the 29th April, says that Government compels owners of steamers to keep a doctor on board because coolies are sometimes attacked with cholera in such steamers. A person whose veracity can be trusted reports that some coolies died of cholera in a steamer in his presence, but, far from giving medicines, no one took even any notice of them. On his making enquiries on the point, one who looked like the captain of the steamer said that he acted as the doctor of that steamer. Government should enquire into the matter.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,
Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 11th May 1889.